

THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. II.

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No. 7.

FOR THE SILENT WORLD.

TO ———.

Not by the tongue's fond appealing
Unto thee;
Not by music softly stealing
Over thee;
Not by the voice full of feeling
Praising thee;
Not by sweet whispers revealing
Soul to thee;
No, not thus canst thou be won.

But by the eye's truthful speaking
Unto thee;
By the soul in silence seeking
Joy with thee;
By love's mute eloquence pleading
Love for thee;
By faithful heart ever heeding
None but thee;
Only thus canst thou be won.

PHILIP.

CONGRESS AND THE DEAF AND DUMB.

II.

THE following debate will doubtless prove interesting, in that it displays the crude and erroneous ideas which prevailed in many minds half a century ago as to the instruction of the deaf and dumb.

Mr. Clay's sober declaration, that "the whole of the deaf and dumb in the United States * * * might be educated at the Connecticut Asylum," will provoke a smile, as also his complaint of the then extravagant cost of living in New York.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, December 9, 1819.

Mr. Meigs, of New York, presented a memorial of the Institution in New York for "instructing persons deaf and dumb," praying for a donation in land for the support of the said Institution; which was referred to a select committee, and Messrs. Meigs, Dickinson, and Foot were appointed the said committee.

TUESDAY, December 28, 1819.

Mr. Meigs, of New York, from the select committee to whom was referred an inquiry into the expediency of granting to the New York Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb a donation of land, made a report thereon favorable to the purpose proposed, accompanied by a bill granting one township of land to said Institution; which was twice read, and committed.

FRIDAY, January 7, 1820.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole (Mr. Taylor in the chair) on the bill granting a township of public land to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum in the city of New York.

Mr. Meigs, of New York, said it was doubtless proper that he, as the chairman of the committee which reported this bill, should give some account of the reasons for that report. The State of New York, in 1818, incorporated the Institution at the request of several benevolent gentlemen, and among them the learned and amiable Dr. Mitchell. The Institution immediately commenced its labors, and has continued to exert itself

with slender means in the very interesting cause of the deaf and dumb. It now has under its protection more than fifty children, the greater part of whom have made surprising progress in the acquisition of information. But what is still more remarkable, said Mr. M., by the happy exertion of benevolent skill many of these unfortunates have been taught to speak, and, very latterly, as I am informed by Dr. Mitchell, they have been made to hear. So great has been the success of the kind and intelligent directors of the deaf and dumb, that I am perhaps justified in saying that it promises to become an Institution for curing the deaf and dumb. The present application to the Government would not be made on the plea of charity. It is, perhaps, not the province of this Government to give alms. But it is made on the ground that this nation regards knowledge as the basis of its strength. I will call the attention of the committee, said Mr. M., to the case of the Asylum at Hartford, which received last year from the national munificence a grant precisely similar to the one contained in the present bill. I feel satisfied that nothing is required more from me than this brief statement which I have made to induce the committee to make this appropriation of a small portion of our immense landed estate for so good and humane purposes.

Mr. Clay, (Speaker,) of Kentucky, said he regretted exceedingly that he felt himself obliged to object to a bill which was recommended to the consideration of the House by the worthy gentleman from New York, (Mr. Meigs,) and especially as it was a bill with such a benevolent object. Waiving the question whether, after the liberal endowment by Congress of the Connecticut Asylum, the wants of society required (which he doubted) another institution for the deaf and dumb; but he must think that if we made any grant, it would be better to make it directly in money rather than land. It was desirable that Congress should retain the monopoly of the sale of the public lands, because they could better regulate the manner in which they should be brought into the market, and could count with more certainty upon the produce of the revenue from that source. It was particularly desirable to avoid the competition of large landholders, whether corporations or individuals. This bill proposes a grant of a township, with certain privileges of selection and location. It might be fairly estimated, considering those privileges, as worth about one hundred thousand dollars. The object, no doubt, of the New York Institution was to bring it into market, and it would consequently tend to supply the demand for public land to the amount of the grant. It would abstract so much from the public revenue, and ought therefore to be considered, as in effect it was, a grant of so much money. And he hoped, if the honorable gentleman pressed the passage of the bill, that he would move an amendment to substitute money for land. Mr. C. really thought that it was high time that we should begin to husband the public resources. With an empty exchequer, we ought to review the causes which have led to it, and examine if there had been no extravagant profusion on the part of Government. He thought the House was imperiously called upon to pause. He repeated the expression of sincere regret which he felt in interposing any objection to the bill; but he must move to strike out the first section of it.

Mr. Randolph, of Virginia, observed that he was opposed to this bill for another reason, which had great weight on his mind, and ought to have on that of every member from Vir-

ginia and Kentucky. It was, that the provisions of the bill were opposed to the letter and spirit of that contract to which the States of Virginia and Kentucky were parties, inasmuch as it permitted this location to be made on any of the public lands of the United States. The State of Virginia, Mr. R. feared, stood on this floor, as elsewhere, not in the most enviable light; she was held up—it was a proud and enviable distinction—as a target for the shafts of political calumny. It was for others to enjoy the bounty of this House; it was for her to receive law, sheer law, when she could make out a color of title. For one, Mr. R. said he most earnestly hoped she would never appear at this bar or on this floor in the attitude of supplication; though it would require the art of a political professor in classification and nomenclature to adduce any reproach instituted against her; and notwithstanding the manifest violations of the contract by which she ceded the territory out of which three of the largest States of the Confederacy have been formed, she has still been most loyal. She had never done even what she might have done; she had never issued warrants or furnished squatters or settlers for this territory. She gave it for the general purposes of the Confederacy—not to be cut up into seigniories held in mortmain, but for the public benefit of the Union. This bill, Mr. R. continued, was at direct variance with the contract of cession of the territory which comprises the States of Indiana and Illinois, and the territory northwest of them. With regard to the grant to the school at Hartford, the usefulness of it could not enter into the view which he had taken of this subject, nor justify the present donation. If we go on by precedents, we shall lose sight of the Constitution, instead of looking to it—looking to it as a constitution of delegated powers—a jealous, guarded delegation of authority. Even this morning, Mr. R. said, the House had declared by its vote, (alluding to the ordering to a third reading the bill for the relief of Matthew Barrow, a subaltern officer, who is indemnified the amount of a judgment recovered against him by a citizen of Tennessee, whose property he had impressed into the service,) that it will preserve harmless all who violate the laws; but when that subject again came up he would try to show that it was an absurd departure from the legal authority of the House.

Mr. Foot, of Connecticut, knew of no power but delegated power, and would not participate in the exercise of any other. He also entered his protest against legislating by precedents; whenever we shall be governed by them, he said, we shall be in a fair road to despotism. But even on the principle of precedent, the present bill could not be decided by the example of the donation to the Hartford Asylum. That was the first Institution of the kind established in the country; they had sent to Europe for professors to introduce the system of teaching the deaf and dumb and to instruct others, who might carry the benefits of the art into other parts of the Union; it was on this account that the grant was made. In the Hartford Asylum, too, not a third part of the pupils belonged to the State of Connecticut; its benefits embraced the afflicted of many other States, and it had peculiar claims to the aid of the Government.

E. M. G.

[To be continued.]

DR. J. WALLIS was the first practical teacher of deaf-mutes in England. He was an eminent professor of mathematics in the University of Oxford. His writings on the instruction of the deaf and dumb passed through many editions and are still valuable. One of his pupils was exhibited before the king, the nobility, and the Royal Society of London in 1662. "The Wallis Deaf-Mute Debating Club," of London, is named in his honor.

'T WAS NONE OF HIS FUNERAL.

A WESTERN paper tells a story of a deaf gentleman's mistake. It seems that in the procession that followed good Deacon Jones to the grave last summer, the Rev. Mr. Sampler, the new clergyman of East Town, found himself in the same carriage with an elderly man he had never before met. They rode in grave silence for a few moments, when the clergyman endeavored to improve the occasion by serious conversation.

"This is a solemn duty in which we are engaged, my friend," he said.

"Hey? What do you say, sir?" the old man returned. "Can't you speak louder? I'm hard of hearin'!"

"I was remarking," shouted the clergyman, "that this is a solemn road we are travelling to-day."

"Sandy road! You don't call this 'ere sandy, do ye? Guess you ain't been down to the south district. There's a stretch of road on the old pike that beats all I ever see for hard travellin'. Only a week before Deacon Jones was tuk sick, I met him drivin' his ox team along there, and the sand was pretty nigh up to the hubs of the wheels. The deacon used to get dreadful riled 'bout that piece of road, and East Town does go ahead of all creation for sand."

The young clergyman looked blank at the unexpected turn given to his remarks, but quickly recovering himself, and raising his voice to the highest pitch, he resumed the conversation.

"Our friend here has done with all the discomforts of earth," he said solemnly. "A small spot of ground will soon cover his senseless clay."

"Did you say clay, sir?" cried the old man, eagerly. "'Tain't nigh so good to cover sand with as medder loam. Sez I to Mr. Brewer, last town-meetin' day, 'if you cart on a few dozen loads, and there's acres of it on the river bank', sez I, 'you'd make as pretty a piece of road as there is in Hartford county.' But we are slow folks in East Town, sir."

It was, perhaps, fortunate for the clergyman at that moment that the smell of new-made hay from a neighboring field suggested a fresh train of thought.

"Look!" said he, with a graceful wave of the hand; "what an emblem of the brevity of human life! 'As the grass of the field so man flourisheth, and to-morrow he is cut down.'"

"I don't calculate to cut mine till next week," said his companion. "You mustn't cut grass too 'arly, and then, again, you mustn't cut it too late."

"My friend!" shrieked the clergyman, in a last desperate attempt to make himself understood, "this is no place for vain conversation. We are approaching the narrow house for all the living."

They were entering the graveyard, but the old man stretched his neck from the window in the opposite direction. "Do you mean 'Squire Hubbard's, over yonder? 'Tis rather narrer. They build all them new-fangled houses in that way now. To my mind they ain't nigh so handsome nor so handy as the old-fashioned square ones, with a broad entry runnin' clear through to the back door. Well, this is gettin'-out place, ain't it? Much obleeged to ye, parson, for your entertainin' remarks."

A PUPIL of Thomas Braidwood, the eminent instructor of deaf-mutes in Great Britain, who was born deaf and dumb, was chosen a member of Parliament for the county of Ross-shire in 1784 and re-chosen in 1790. He also raised a regiment of two battalions of foot and held the rank of colonel. In 1800 he was appointed Governor of Barbadoes. This distinguished deaf-mute was a brother of Lord Mackenzie, of Kintail, and is the same to whom Sir Walter Scott alludes in one of his poems.

THE NATIONAL DEAF-MUTE COLLEGE.

A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SILENT WORLD, in the number for March 1, says "that to the middle classes in our country its destinies are mainly committed." This we believe, and therefore we plead the cause of education. Next to the influence of the Gospel of Christ, we place the power of education. Throughout the length and breadth of New England, the church and the school-house stand side by side, and also in many of the Middle and Western States.

A boy can enter the primary school, and if he have talent and industry can pass on, grade by grade, until he can knock at the halls of Yale or Cambridge. This is right; and though the educated man, if he be a villain, can lay deeper plans for wickedness, and is doubly guilty, it is, we believe, true that the proportion of those who have really cultivated minds who grovel in vice and sin is not large. Except when led away by the intoxicating cup, we rarely find men of culture in the ranks of outbreking sin.

It is not for all to desire a residence in college halls. Talents differ. "To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one." The day laborer can learn to read and spell and write, and comprehend the simple rules of arithmetic, and he can thus be useful, respected, happy. He will peg his shoes and dig his ditch or swing the scythe all the better as he feels that, after the day's toil, he can read his newspaper and write his contracts for himself. For these we have the common school.

Those who have a turn for invention, for mechanics, for mathematics, need a higher grade of instruction. They should learn of the properties of heat, of the rules of proportion and surveying, of practical chemistry, and of the formation of the earth. Our high schools are established for this class, and many a man has learned their value.

Yet another class aspire to the learned professions, to be at the head of our high schools and colleges; they desire to measure the planets, to sound the depths of philosophy, to explore the mysteries of earth and sea, to inquire into storms and calms, and make the lightning obedient to their will. They wish to talk with the ancient Hebrews and Greeks, and with the moderns in all the varied tongues which Babel has produced. This requires college training.

The ditcher needs not the high school, and the artisan requires not to expend his midnight oil upon Greek roots. Yet he should not quarrel with the college, nor should the collegian condemn the high school or the primary. Each is valuable, indispensable, in its place. One is a stepping-stone to the other, and the idea that every common school, or even high school, should be a college, is simply ridiculous.

These thoughts have been suggested by the question now agitated with a little bitterness, methinks, whether the National Deaf-Mute College at Washington does meet a need felt by the mute, and whether it does afford better facilities for a finished education than our older institutions. We say in our opinion this is its intention, and we affirm unhesitatingly that it is accomplishing what it proposed.

The institution is the outgrowth of years of experience. The mantle of the sainted Gallaudet has fallen on the honored and dearly-loved president. His training from infancy, added to his natural gifts, have fitted him peculiarly to develop the mind of the mute. His associates are men of experience, scholarship, and worth—men earnest in their work and fully capable of accomplishing what they undertake.

The Institution is a national one. Its pupils are generally the best and most gifted from all the schools of the land. Those most fitted for advancement in study in the United States and from abroad seek its privileges.

The published course of study compares favorably with that of our colleges. In submitting it to a graduate of Yale, he pronounced it far above what he had supposed the mute capable of enjoying, and all who understand the working of the College know that the *pony* carries few riders, and he who *cuts* recitation once is not likely to make a second experiment.

We would not disparage a single school for the deaf and dumb in our land. But every one knows that all our literary institutions are raising their standard; why not the deaf and dumb? There is no other college than this, and is it not needed? We wish not to speak lightly of that pioneer school for the deaf in Hartford; we would rather bespeak for it reverence and affection. We would not fail to remember, with tears of gratitude, the surprising labors of the indefatigable elder Peet. He has earned many laurels, and in a brighter world his crown will be brilliant with gems. Nor would we forget the self-denying labors of his son, who, for so many years, has borne a heavy burden of care and toil, and has so kindly and conscientiously guided the steps of many a mute in the path of knowledge, and also in that path "which shineth brighter and brighter to the perfect day." Honor to them all! They have merited and ought to receive the gratitude of the whole "silent world."

These Institutions were built for a definite purpose, and are fulfilling that purpose every day. But the eye cannot say to the head, "I have no need of thee;" nor, again, the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." Now, we respectfully ask, if among mutes are not needed for different degrees of mental calibre the primary, intermediate, grammar, and high schools? And among the ten thousand and more mutes of the land are there not a *few* who ought to have the highest educational advantages?

And we would ask, with all kindness of heart, if there be any institutions who consider that we depreciate them in advocating the claims of our National College, if they are not demeaning themselves by jealousy, and exposing themselves to the same just contempt which our public-school teachers would merit in decrying the superior literary advantages of Amherst or Columbia?

We trust no one is so foolish, so unworthy. We hope those who have devoted so much time and thought to one of the greatest works of benevolence in the nineteenth century will never paralyze their influence and undermine the good they wish to accomplish by petty suspicions and contentions one with another. It is beneath their dignity.

God-speed, we say, with all our heart, *every one* who labors for the improvement of the deaf-mute, be he in the east or the west, the north or the south. His reward is great on earth; and in heaven many of those whose "ears shall then be unstopped" shall call them "blessed."

It is estimated on the best authority that there are at least 500,000 deaf and dumb persons in the world.

DURING the last fiscal year the Ohio Institution has increased eight per cent., while the salaries of its officers have decreased eleven per cent.

"MAY it please your honor," exclaimed a jurymen, "I am deaf in one ear." "Then you may be excused, as it is necessary for a juror to *bear both sides*," said the judge.

THERE are three deaf-mutes in Ohio between 80 and 90 years of age; 16 between 70 and 80; 35 between 60 and 70; 83 between 50 and 60; 81 between 40 and 50; 151 between 30 and 40; 289 between 20 and 30; 236 between 15 and 20; 245 between 10 and 15; 172 between 5 and 10; and 27 between 1 and 5.

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REVIEWS OF REPORTS.

To us the most interesting report in our collection is that of the Protestant Institution in Montreal, Canada. The report in itself does not differ much from those of other schools, and 'tis our fellow feeling for Mr. Widd, the Principal, who is deaf and dumb, that makes us so wondrous kind. He is a graduate of the Glasgow (Scotland) Institution, and seems to have his school in Montreal well in hand, if we may use a sporting phrase. Although this Institution is undoubtedly doing a good work zealously and well, still the fact is apparent that, owing to the uncertain source from whence it draws its sustenance, (it being supported by the subscriptions and donations of the benevolent,) its work is somewhat limited, and it is in serious want of facilities to increase its usefulness and enlarge its buildings. Schools like this ought to be supported like other schools, directly by the Government; and the idea ought to be discarded that the work of educating the deaf and dumb is a work of charity not properly devolving upon the Government. It is as much the duty of the State as any other system of education.

The number of pupils at the date of the report was fifteen, and the peculiar requirements of its source of support have drawn from Mr. Widd a very clear, concise, and interesting account of the school routine. He also appends a short history of deaf-mute education, which to us is very readable, and from which we have appropriated various items, to be found in other parts of THE SILENT WORLD.

The report of the Pennsylvania Institution shows that there are about 210 pupils in attendance from Pennsylvania, which is something less than half of the number of suitable school age in the State. There are also 12 pupils from New Jersey and 7 from Delaware. Of the sixty-six counties in Pennsylvania, twenty-one have not a single pupil in the Institution. Some of these are among the largest and most populous counties in the State, such as Westmoreland, with nearly 59,000 inhabitants, Armstrong with 43,000, and Venango with 48,000. These unrepresented counties must have the same proportion of deaf-mutes as the others, and it is very painful to think of the large number of deaf and dumb in them who are growing up in ignorance. It is pretty evident that the half is not being done in Pennsylvania that ought to be done for the education of this class. It is hoped the proposed Institution at Pittsburgh will do much to remedy this defect. The directors note the failure of the plan to establish a day-school, which was mentioned by our correspondent some time back. The failure is attributed to the apathy of parents in regard to the education of their children. The small-pox has been successfully kept from invading this household, although it has terribly scourged the city lying around, as many as 1,200 deaths taking place during the month of December. We observe that this report has no catalogue of the pupils, and, if we recollect aright, it never had one. It is a small thing, perhaps, but we feel a little curiosity to know why it is so. The pardonable desire of every one to see his name in print may be presumed to exist in the Pennsylvania deaf-mutes as well as in other people, and we know the innocent pleasure

it gave to us while at school to see our name in such a respectable-looking pamphlet as the report. And it is, besides, a help and a pleasure to friends and relatives and inmates of other Institutions to have such a list to refer to.

A large part of the report is taken up with references to the semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the school, and with the addresses then delivered. The occasion and other incidents were noticed in the July (1871) number of THE SILENT WORLD, and there is no need for us to repeat our remarks. Suffice it to say, that the officers of the School seemed to have enjoyed the sight of the results of their labors then presented to them in the persons of three hundred happy human beings, who but for them would have been enveloped in mental darkness.

Unlike Pennsylvania, all the counties in Indiana have been represented by pupils in the Institution at Indianapolis. At present there are about 275 scholars in attendance. Mr. MacIntire thinks that, however perfect an Institution may be, it can never supply the place of home and parental influence and care, and for this reason he does not think it advisable that pupils should be admitted before they are ten years of age, although he mentions, as a fact, that parents, as a rule, are more willing to let their children go away to school when they are seven or eight years of age than when they are older, for the reason that at those ages the peculiar misfortune of deaf-dumbness is most vividly impressed upon their minds by the difficulty they experience in communicating with them, and by comparison with other children who at that age commence to attend school. The introduction of additional trades is urged, especially book-binding and printing; and the new method of dividing the hours of labor and study is especially commended. Instead of the usual fragmentary divisions of the day, it is now divided into two grand divisions. From a quarter before eight in the morning to one P. M. the pupils are in school, and from two to five in the afternoon they are in the shop and at household duties. The pupils like the arrangement much better than the old plan, work better, learn faster, and accomplish more.

In conclusion, we note that all of the reports have some allusion to the sudden death of the Rev. Collins Stone, and one and all pay a tribute of respect to his memory, and regret the great loss to the deaf and dumb of so valuable a friend, and to the community at large of so sincere and earnest a man.

THERE are over 2,000 deaf-mutes in the city of London, England, and they have a noble church for their especial benefit.

Of the deaf-mutes of Ohio who lost their hearing after birth, the greater number became deaf under one and between one and two years of age.

S. M. SMITH, M. D., physician of the Ohio Institution, says that the statistics of three years past indicate cerebro spinal meningitis (spotted fever) as the most frequent source of deafness, when caused by disease.

It is proposed to introduce the system of visible speech advocated by Mr. A. Graham Bell into the American Asylum, into the New York, Illinois, and Ontario Institutions, and into the Protestant Institution at Montreal.

If we are to trust Shakespeare, great Cæsar was able to sympathize with our class. He is made to say:

"Come on my right hand, for this ear is deaf,
And tell me truly what thou think'st of him."

No doubt, had he lived to-day, he would have been a subscriber and contributor to THE SILENT WORLD. Who knows but he would have written "*De Bello Gallico*" as a serial for its columns?

COLLEGE RECORD.

ALL ABOUT THE JAPANESE.

COMING events cast their shadows before. There are probably 30,000 mutes in Japan, and indications thicken that they are to share in the great system of enlightenment which the embassy now here is endeavoring to organize for the benefit of its countrymen.

On March 20, F. M. Tanaka, a member of the embassy, and commissioner of the educational department of Japan, paid the Institution a visit. He was very thorough in his inspection, pursuing his observations even into the dining-rooms, visiting the students' rooms, "to see how they lived," as he said, and the Reading-room, in order to discover—well, probably not what he did discover—a senior reading the last *Atlantic*, with his heels perched upon the radiator considerably above his head.

The interpreter was not sufficiently expert to allow of a free intercourse. Nevertheless, the ambassador asked many pertinent questions, showing such an appreciation of the work and such an intelligent desire to comprehend it as surprised many into a review of their previous opinions concerning the Japanese calibre. In this connection let us mention that in the course of a conversation with the Japanese Minister, Arinori Mori, a few days previous to this visit, he spoke most properly of the distinction between the work of the College and that of the Institutions for deaf-mutes—a distinction which a good many men nearer us than Japan have failed to get through their heads.

Mr. Tanaka spoke of the visit of the embassy to the California Institution at Oakland, and said he had seen many mutes in his native country. He asked how much it cost to support the College, and on being told that it cost \$48,000 last year, \$40,000 of which came from the Government, he "wanted to know" where the remaining \$8,000 came from! Observing a bust of De l'Épée in the hall, and being told that his labors—practically the first organized attempts at deaf-mute instruction—began only about 100 years ago, he thought Japan was not so far behind after all. And he was still more pleased when the United States Commissioner of Education pointed to a portrait of Gallaudet, and told him he (Tanaka) was now in America doing just what Gallaudet went to France and did one hundred years ago. †

AMUSEMENTS.

WE do not intend to write an essay, as the reader might infer from the heading; but only to relate the unvarnished tale of several highly-varnished proceedings. Our College world has used its best endeavors to hasten the exit of the Lenten season, for directly in the wake of the Japanese troupe came a succession of pleasant entertainments.

On Wednesday evening, the 20th, a panorama of views, comprising scenes in the Holy Land, statuary, etc., was exhibited in the Hall. The pictures were reflected upon a screen from a magnesium light. We have *dim* impressions that there was not enough magnesia in the light—at any rate we afterwards found our ideas were considerably "mixed" as to which of two groups was "Paul and Virginia" and which was "Boaz and Ruth." Besides, the room was darkened, and the President, who interpreted, could not "show his hand" very well, with the shadowy screen as a background. Nevertheless, all gained clear conceptions of many places renowned in Scripture, and of famous works of art.

On the Saturday evening following charades were acted and tableaux presented by the primary pupils. Some of the tableaux were especially effective. Among them were three scenes from

Tennyson's "May Queen," and groups representing Rogers' statuettes—"The Country Post-office," and "Taking the Oath." We have rarely witnessed an exhibition that combined so much perfection of detail, taste, beauty, and truthfulness to the objects represented. This was particularly true of the "Taking the Oath." It was most beautiful, and, in its delineations, exact, to the last shred on the ragged and hungry little darkey in the front of the piece.

Some one remarked, "If Rogers was only here —!" and we thought, Well, the spirit of Rogers is here. Not being a primary pupil, but a College senior, we at first felt the exhibition rather cheapened the pantomimes given by the L. S. in the early part of the winter. But we consoled ourselves with—oh! it is all due to the artist mind of Mrs. Fay, and to the skill of Miss Gordon and the matrons. We surrender—but only to the ladies.

Monday evening—right in the midst of the desperate dig and cram for examination—came another panorama. This time it was the wonders of the Yosemite. The views were brought out much more distinctly than at the first exhibition, and were so interesting that that night we dreamed of the (probable) teachers' convention in San Francisco two years hence, a half-fare ticket out and back, etc., etc.

Our record closes with Wednesday evening, the 27th, when the first reception of the Literary Society was held. This was voted a great success by all present. It was the first independent attempt of the kind yet made by the students. There were "all sorts of games" for those sportively inclined; cosy places to chat in; plenty of room to promenade in; the College dining-room was festooned with evergreens, and cleared for dancing. (Witnessing the attempts of beginners to master "The Lancers," we thought some of the dances more hazy than "mazy.") After doing justice to one of Freund's "spreads," the company dispersed, all averring that they had had a very enjoyable time. Messrs. Draper, Stretch, and Chapin, the committee, feel much "sot up" in consequence. We hope this party will be a precedent for many others of the kind.

THE SILENT COLLEGE.

MR. AMOS G. DRAPER, of the Senior Class, has an article in *Scribner's Monthly* for April with the above title, from which we make the following extracts, believing they will be of interest to our readers:

"A recent writer has brought forth an earnest 'plea for silence.' He tells of a school which an old French writer proposed to establish, to be called '*L'Académie Silencieuse*,' wherein little writing, much thinking, and no speaking was to be the rule.

"Probably he was not aware that the ideal academy of the fantastic Frenchman was already *un fait accompli* at the capital of this talkative country of ours, where a silent college is yearly sending forth its alumni, pledged to an absolute, lifelong observance of Carlyle's pointed injunction. * * *

"The main central building of the Institution is the first prominent object to catch the eye of the traveller entering Washington by rail from the north. It is in a beautiful suburban district called Kendall Green. Being mediæval Gothic in style, the appearance of the edifice is in pleasing contrast to the severe Grecian and Doric fronts common to the public buildings of the city.

"One can hardly leave the babble and clamor of the outside world and enter the precincts of the Institution without strange sensations; for it is a curious place—curious in its *personnel*, its processes, and its incidents.

"Perhaps the first thing to impress the visitor is the atmosphere of pervading silence in which he finds himself. He

sees gathering about him, at chapel-time, a throng of youth very like those of his own college days, but they come without summons of bell, and no hilarious tones echo along the passages. The services are given in the voiceless language of pantomime. No comic songs are heard about the doorways, nor no ringing choruses enliven the evening, for the deaf-mute is a stranger, if not to the hidden soul of harmony, at least to its outer forms; whatever ideas of poetic expression exist among the students are there only as they linger in the minds of those whose ears, many a long year ago, became closed to all the concords of sweet sounds.

"But the place, though silent, is far from being gloomy and expressionless. Few would think it so after seeing the students converse, debate, and declaim among themselves. They use, of course, 'the sign-language,' which is the result of an improvement and development of that natural imitative faculty common to all the human family.

"Gesture is the first and most natural means by which any passion seeks expression, and hence the developed language of signs becomes much more graphic in its delineation of the emotions than spoken language can be. It is to the latter what pictures are to written description. In this language of 'action, action, ACTION' all the arts of oratory are cultivated and the nimble jest goes round.

"Witness this group of students conversing in the hall. Two are debating the Theory of the Origin of Species. The one signing *seems* to be excited beyond bounds. His body and limbs are in energetic action, and on his countenance are portrayed the similitudes of the emotions that move earnest contestants. He is warm and cool, perturbed and calm, repellent and winning, by turns. Every idea advanced by the hands is visibly sketched upon the countenance. When he has presented evidence, his set face challenges disproof. The gesture of derision is accompanied by the smile of ridicule. And when at the close he has arrayed the geological record as direct proof of his opinions, he folds his arms and leans back, a smile of serene immovability symbolizing his confidence in a theory he deems already proven.

"It is hardly necessary to add that this debater has supported the biblical account of the creation. His Darwinist opponent has stood, like Roderick Dhu, unmoved beneath repeated blows; and now he answers ridicule, argument, and evidence by stating gravely, with slow gestures and calm face, the hypotheses that compose his ingenious theory.

"Yonder student is picturing to a convulsed group the melancholy tale of the gentleman of doubtful assets, whose soup was suddenly removed by a clever waiter armed with a syringe. The writer has seen this and similar anecdotes related in the sign-language at exhibitions so effectively as to make certain learned doctors of divinity nearly wriggle off their seats with amusement.

"A deaf-mute student commits his lessons by placing one hand under the table, (under, in order to avoid disturbing his fellows,) and spelling out each word rapidly by means of the manual alphabet. The motions of his hand resemble those of an expert telegraph operator. The process is precisely the same, with a change of means, as that employed by ordinary students when they con lessons aloud. Sometimes in the heat of an examination one will suddenly cease writing, ply his fingers until he has caught up the thread of an argument, or secured a necessary fact, and then proceed with his paper.

"Although these youth are incapable of enjoying the phenomena of sound, many of them are exceedingly sensitive to some of the causes which excite those phenomena, such as a vibration, for instance. During a late term one of them became possessed of a violin. He carried the instrument to his room and employed every leisure moment to 'fill the air with

barbarous dissonance' until a professor remonstrated. Some greatly enjoy the twang of a rubber string, or of the bar of a jew's-harp; and one throughout his course was accustomed to play upon a harmonicon whenever he became low-spirited.

"In athletic sports and games there are few schools able to boast so large a proportion of proficient as this Institution contains. Loss of hearing sharpens the sight, and the skill and success with which these students, in competitive games like "prisoner's base," make the eye and hand do the duty of the ear and voice is quite surprising.

"Several can clear twenty feet at a running jump on a level, or run a hundred yards inside of ten seconds. At the recent 'Carnival' in Washington, one of the students entered for the foot-race of a mile. He had scarcely any time to prepare, yet the event showed that he could 'win a cup.' Clad in the buff and blue College colors, and backed enthusiastically by his fellow-students, he sped down the roaring length of the avenue, from the Capitol to the Treasury, and reached the goal abreast of a 'professional' runner who had come from a distance and trained expressly for the race."

THERE is no one in the Congress of the United States who takes a more cordial interest in the education of the deaf and dumb, and who is more ready to render the cause every aid in his power, than Senator Patterson, of New Hampshire. It is therefore with profound gratification that, sinking mere political considerations out of sight, we hail the result of the last general election in Mr. Patterson's State, for the result, in all probability, secures his re-election to the Senate for another term of six years. Long may he continue to be as he is now—one of the ablest, most patriotic, and most influential of its members.

EASTER examinations came off on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of March.

GOVERNOR WARMOTH, of Louisiana, was at College one day recently to see some friends.

A PARTY left College for Great Falls and the head waters of the Potomac at 5 o'clock the next morning after examination.

A FINE billiard-table has been purchased for the use of the teachers and the girls in the Primary Department. It is placed in the old College dining-room.

THE knoll a short distance from the Kendall mansion, which base-ball players cast longing eyes upon in days of yore, is to be put in trim in time for play this spring.

"How far can you jump?" is the question which at present agitates the classic minds of the students. The soft, oozy soil of ye spring time is very propitious for its solution.

MR. J. H. LAMME, of the Preparatory Class, left for home on the 18th of March. He does not intend to return. During his stay among us he has made many sincere friends, who wish him well and regret the circumstances which compelled him to go away.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the gaieties mentioned elsewhere all came during the time given for preparation for the three days' examination, this ordeal was passed by the students, as a whole, more creditably than any previous one. Not a man was conditioned in either the Senior, Junior, or Sophomore Classes, and only three of the Freshman Class—an unprecedented fact.

FROM a letter received by President Gallaudet from Mr. Tuck it appears that last summer the California Institution collected \$22.50 and forwarded it to the Washington Cleric Monument Association, and they have complained to Mr. T. that nothing has yet been heard of it. The President explains matters as follows: Last summer he received a post office money order from Oakland, Cal., for \$21.50, (not \$22.50,) with no indication of whom it was from or what it was for. On calling at the post office, where he is well known, he was informed that it was from a Mr. Krantz. Mr. G. had never heard of such a person, and entered the amount on his books. He has now handed it to the proper persons.

THE rural papers misprint cerebro spinal meningitis "spiral maginnis," and deaf-mute papers spell it "spinal ondro meningitis."

THE condition of an uneducated deaf-mute is very graphically described by Mr. Draper in his article in *Scribner's Monthly* for April. We give the paragraph:

"In Bennington, Vermont, fifteen years ago, lived a character known in all the region round as 'Dumb Gray.' He was an uneducated deaf-mute—tall, well-formed, with bearded and not unhandsome features. Most of his time was spent in moody isolation. Occasionally he would enter the town, and always became the center of an eager and curious group. When thus surrounded, he would come to a full stop, throw back his fine head, and look from face to face in the throng, half angry, half abashed, and altogether perplexed, as if sensible of the presence of strange *confrères*, whose affinity with himself he perceived, whose superiority he dimly recognized, but was too proud to acknowledge without the explanation for which, perhaps, he hungered. Unemulous, unambitious, utterly regardless of his personal advancement; startled by a touch, soothed by a glance; not easily provoked, but terrible when aroused; appropriating any unguarded article that tempted him, but always without effort at concealment; occasionally evincing a disposition to make an acquaintance in the town, the next hour flying in bitter revulsion to his mountain home, he was clearly a strange being, pitiable but mysteriously and impressively afflicted—a being not only bereft of all the highest enjoyments, but tortured by his inability to comprehend them; a being to challenge at once the sympathy of the generous, the interest of the philosophical, and the solicitude of the religious."

THE first school for deaf-mutes in America was established by a grandson of Braidwood, in Virginia, in 1811.

GET sixty-five subscribers for THE SILENT WORLD, and you will receive a present of a Weed Family Favorite Sewing-machine, worth \$65, the best machine in use.

THE article on the National Deaf-mute College in another part of THE SILENT WORLD, is from the pen of a lady in a distant state, and her words are entitled to great weight, as being those of one who has no reason to be otherwise than just.

INSTITUTION NEWS.

INDIANA.

FROM a letter in *The Indianapolis Sentinel* we learn that when the Institution in that place was first established, the cost per pupil was only \$75, and their first annual bill was \$1,125; and the entire expenses for the first year were only \$3,389.77.

The writer avers that the lands surrounding the Institution, which are comparatively of but little profit to it, would, if sold now, pay for the erection of the entire edifice. The dining-room he considers superior to that of any hotel in the West, it being well lighted and airy, and capable of seating three hundred persons conveniently at a meal.

We always had an idea that the ratio of the two sexes among the deaf and dumb was essentially dependent upon the same laws that govern the propagation of other classes of people, but this writer sees it in a new light. He says: "In the unfortunate disability which afflicts these pupils, it seems strange that the sexes are about equal. This would indicate that they are evidently intended by nature not to travel the paths of life alone. It is quite observable that they have the life power of kindly associations even now, and when the full maturity of years comes upon them, they will doubtless feel, as others do, that 'it is not good for man to be alone.'"

We opine that the readers of THE SILENT WORLD, as well as the entire fraternity of deaf-mutes at large, will be glad to learn that the man who was recently committed to jail in Madison on the charge of stealing an overcoat and of playing the part of a deaf and dumb person, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for the term of three years. At first thought the punishment may seem unreasonably severe; but a moment's reflection will serve to convince us that to descend to so debasing an act as to represent one's self as a deaf-mute in the hope of obtaining money from the hands of the compassionate and charitable, a man's moral nature must be very much depraved.

Some time since several of our teachers received invitations to address the Deaf-mute Sunday-schools and religious organizations in New Albany and Louisville, but were forced to decline, since neither would the railroad companies pass them over their lines free nor the members of the organizations consent to defray their travelling expenses. The teachers argued that it was enough for them to take the trouble of preparing the addresses and delivering them, without having to bear the expense of travelling several hundred miles. It is rumored here, we know not on what grounds of truth, that these Sunday-schools have been or are soon to be discontinued.

The health of officers, teachers, and pupils is excellent, and everything connected with the Institution is flowing along quietly and evenly. The work of enlarging the old chapel building has been commenced; the roof has been already taken off preparatory to making the structure several stories higher. In consequence of this two school-rooms are rendered unfit for use, and the classes which formerly occupied them now hold their recitations in the boys' study-room.

James Eldred and Miss Amanda Compton, formerly pupils here, and at present residing in Elkhart, were married on New Year's day. J. L. H.

MICHIGAN.

THE "King of Terrors" recently claimed one of the blind pupils, Miss Carrie Bender. She died Sunday afternoon, March 3, of quick consumption, and was buried the next day in the Institution lot in Glenwood Cemetery.

There have been more deaths among the blind pupils than among the deaf and dumb since the establishment of this Institution. This is owing to the greater confinement consequent upon blindness, especially among the girls.

Rev. Mr. Arnold, who has been mentioned before, delivered another interesting lecture before the pupils, March 3, on "The Sacred Mountains," illustrating it with a number of pictures. Your correspondent was unfortunately unable to be present, and therefore cannot give a more detailed account. Mr. Arnold seems to take great interest in the moral instruction of the deaf-mutes.

While the Clerc Monument Association was in session on the 16th of March, a strange deaf-mute made his appearance and attracted much attention. The meeting having adjourned, all hastened to meet him. We exhausted all our skill in endeavoring to obtain information of whence he came, where he was born, &c. His gestures were those of an uneducated mute, and no one could understand him. Finally all retired to rest, but about midnight a great alarm was caused by the noise he made in the second hall of the front building. He was caught in the act of looking into the key-hole of a lady's bedroom. He was sent back to the chamber which had been assigned him, and a watch was kept on him all night to prevent any further disturbance. The next day Mr. Bangs recognized him as the same man who was arraigned for burglary in Saginaw, and in whose trial he (Mr. B.) had acted as interpreter. During the day he stole some \$37 from a boarding-house in the city, was arrested, and is now in jail. Some maintain that he is an impostor, while others insist that he is really an uneducated deaf-mute. He is described as between thirty-five and forty years of age, five feet and seven inches in height, dark complexion, dark brown eyes, black hair, a black moustache and side whiskers. He is somewhat bent in walking. He has "J. H. S." pricked in India ink upon his right arm; also a small cross and an anchor. He has a deed of property, which, if genuine, shows him to be from Toronto, Canada. It is thought that an inquiry will be sent there as to the stranger.

If any of the readers of THE SILENT WORLD recognize the man by this description they will do a favor by notifying us. W. L. M. B.

AGRICULTURAL.

OUR readers will observe by a reference to the advertisement of Peter Henderson & Co. that they give two chromo pictures to all customers who mention in what paper they saw their advertisement. Messrs. Richardson & Gould send a choice collection of flower seeds for a like favor—and we hope our readers will always avail themselves of these offers.

Messrs. Richardson & Gould have sent us their annual catalogue, which is a very useful pamphlet, and worth five times its cost, (10c.) It contains much that is valuable to every farmer and gardener, giving, as it does, directions for cultivating all the varieties of vegetables and plants with which its well-filled pages are stored. Send for a copy.

We can safely recommend the two firms mentioned above, together with that of Jas. J. H. Gregory, of Marblehead, Mass., to the patronage of our readers, feeling sure that their seeds will give satisfaction to purchasers.

DIED.

IN Baltimore, on Saturday, March 2, 1872, at half-past 9 o'clock P. M., after two weeks' illness, WILLIAM WORKINGTON, a deaf-mute, aged 67 years and 5 months. He was educated in the Pennsylvania Institution, at Philadelphia.

THE FORTNIGHT.

HOME.

THE Congressional investigating committees are busy, and—a trifle weary.—Some one says that a miss is as good as a mile—of old women. Not respectful.—Rebuilding the burnt district in Chicago is going on with more alacrity, it is said, than wisdom or safety. Experience, best of teachers, does not find the Chicagoans very apt scholars.—Latest conundrum out—not by Parkinson: When is a ship like a scarf-pin? When it is on "the breast of a heavy swell."—Dr. Colton, the laughing-gas man, affirms that during nine years he has administered gas to over 56,000 patients without a single fatal result. He asserts that the recent death of a woman in the dentist's chair in New York was not caused by nitrous-oxide, but by fright or disease.—Nast's political cartoons show more talent than charity.—As organized for the coming baseball season the Boston club seems as likely to win the champion whip as any other.—A Hartford burglar was lately frightened out of his scheme of robbery by the sweet simplicity of a solitary spinster, who, putting her night-capped head out of the window, exclaimed, "Go away! ain't you ashamed?"—Wooden ships are coming into fashion again instead of being entirely superseded, as was predicted not long ago, by vessels of iron.—Wilkie Collins, the author, proposes, as soon as his health will permit, to visit the United States.—This story of Artemus Ward's has turned up within the last fortnight: Being on a slow California train, he went to the conductor and suggested that the cow-catcher was on the wrong end of the train; "for," said he, "you will never overtake a cow, you know; but if you'd put it on the other end it might be useful, for now there's nothin' on earth to hinder a cow from walkin' right in and bitin' the folks!"—General Longstreet has resigned his office in the New Orleans custom-house, from dissatisfaction, it is said, with the course of the Administration towards Governor Warmoth and the Republican State government of Louisiana.—The Alabama treaty is the subject of a friendly diplomatic correspondence between England and the United States.—A burglar broke into the house of a Catholic priest in New York the other day, took a bath, dressed himself in a suit of the reverend father's, and decamped; but was soon arrested, still in priestly costume—a veritable wolf in sheep's clothing.—Senator Sumner is one of the hardest working men in Congress. For twenty years he has not seen the snows of New England, though his home is in Boston.—Thomas A. Scott, the railway king, has a salary of \$150,000 per annum.—Mayor Hall is to have a new trial, one of the members of the jury that was to try him having incontinently died.—The Lowery gang of outlaws, six in number, have for years defied all the power of the State of North Carolina, though a reward of \$45,000 has been offered for them, "dead or alive." Their latest exploit is reported to be the murder of a *New York Herald* correspondent, whose newspaper enterprise and interviewing proclivities were greater than due regard for his own personal safety ought to have permitted.

FOREIGN.

A STUDENT in the University of Edinburgh, who was fined a guinea, paid it in half-pence, much to the amusement of the class and discomfiture of the professors, the counting occupying the best half of an hour.—The political and military misfortunes of France have produced an alarming increase in the number of suicides and lunatics.—A wagon load of objects of art stolen from the house of M. Thiers during the reign of the Commune has lately been returned to him.—The ex-Prince Imperial of France is 16 years old.—Germany has at her immediate disposal 1,000,000 men; the French army is to be raised to 630,000 men, and in twelve years it will be increased to over 1,200,000; Austria has at present available for duty more than 600,000 men, and in a few years the Russian army will number 1,600,000.—The German Emperor celebrated his 75th birthday on the 22d.—At the French eating-houses in Paris they now serve several dishes *a la* Chinese, such as birds' nests, sharks' fins, grasshoppers, and cats! Fricassee frogs are still the most popular and the most expensive.—President Juarez continues to get the better of the revolutionists in Mexico. It is not generally known that this able and politic Mexican is a half-breed Indian.—A telegraph cable is to be laid between Spain and England shortly.

THE NEW METHOD OF EXTINGUISHING FIRES.

UNDERWRITERS have no idea of the extent of their obligation to that useful little appliance, the Babcock fire-extinguisher. Two recent letters from leading railway officials have been shown us, in which the merits of the apparatus are referred to in a way which the companies can appreciate. The superintendent of the Michigan Central railroad states that the company has 120 of the machines at various points on the road, and from 35 to 40 actual fires have been put out with them, and a large amount of property thus saved from impending destruction. Superintendent Harris, of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Company, on whose line there are 230 of these machines, reports that the company's buildings have been "repeatedly" saved by them, and "large conflagrations prevented." This latter gentleman volunteers the opinion that "their general use would render fire a rare circumstance." A large hotel at Stevens' Point, Wis., was saved from destruction

in December by one machine, under circumstances which even to an underwriter must appear remarkable. The proprietors of the hotel state the case thus: "A few evenings since, on a table at the head of the main flight of stairs, stood sixteen kerosene lamps, just lighted for use. By the explosion of one they were all broken, turned over and exploded, and in an instant a large and powerful fire was in progress, which would have destroyed the largest hotel in this city, and, in all probability, the entire business portion of the town, had it not been for the prompt use of a Babcock extinguisher, which put the fire out in less than one minute." In another instance, if possible still more noteworthy, a shed filled with barrels of benzine and kerosene oil took fire, and was soon, of course, a mass of flames. Water was of no use, and the business portion of the town seemed about to become ashes, when an extinguisher, which had been unused for two years, was brought upon the scene, and then the fire was quickly extinguished. Such examples as these, of the efficiency of the Babcock apparatus in fighting fire under its fiercest aspects, justify the hope that underwriters will, with a view to their own interests, urge the general introduction of this system of self-protection, at least in localities and establishments where their own capital is largely endangered. And in the smaller towns, where fire departments and facilities for extinguishment are either unknown or more useless than none at all, fire agents should be instructed to use their influence for the adoption of a substitute so ample, and a defender so trustworthy. A cheap and simple machine whose past record includes the putting out of over 1,000 actual fires, and the saving of more than \$8,000,000 worth of property, cannot very sensibly be ignored by the insurance companies, for it, in fact, is itself the insurer of the companies.—*The Spectator for March.*

OUR PREMIUM LIST.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to our revised premium list. It embraces articles that every deaf-mute stands in need of. Our highest premium, the Weed Sewing-Machine, is an article of necessity in every family, and none can afford to do without it. We congratulate ourselves and our subscribers on being able to offer as a premium the best machine in the market. It is all it claims to be—the simplest, most durable, and the easiest-running machine, and will do all varieties of work with less trouble than any other. Teachers, with a little exertion, can get one for their wives; pupils can get one for their mothers or sisters; girls, wives, and mothers can get one for themselves, and this, too, with very little trouble compared with the value of the sewing-machine. All should avail themselves of this opportunity, and if any are unable to get the full number of names we will let them have a machine on the payment of the sums named below.

All the other premiums are of value. The pens, pencils, and pocket dictionary are what every deaf-mute needs to help him carry on his intercourse with the outer world.

Name of Premium.	Retail Price.	No. of Subscribers at \$1 50.
Hawkes' Nickel-plated Fountain Penholder.....	\$1 00	2
A Gold Pen.....	1 00	2
Webster's Pocket Dictionary.....	1 00	2
Hawkes' Fountain Penholder—rubber, gold-mounted.....	1 50	3
Gold-mounted Rubber Pencil.....	2 50	5
Webster's National Pictorial Dictionary.....	5 00	10
Hawkes' Fountain Pen for the pocket.....	5 00	10
Gold-mounted Rubber Pencil Case and Pen.....	5 00	10
Gold-mounted Rubber Telescopic Case with Pen and Pencil.....	8 00	15
A Family Bible.....	9 00	20
Gold-mounted Rubber Telescopic Case with Pen and Pencil.....	10 00	20
Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.....	12 00	24
Weed Family Favorite Sewing-Machine.....	70 00	70
Weed Family Favorite Sewing-Machine.....	65 00	65
Do.	"	60 and \$10
Do.	"	50 and \$20
Do.	"	40 and \$25
Do.	"	30 and \$30

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